

ARE YOU WATER SMART?

On average, _____% of the water we use goes to residential outdoor irrigation.

☐ 17% ☐ 27% ☐ 37%

Answer: Approximately 27% of the tap water we use is for home outdoor irrigation. Instead of irrigating with drinking water, consider harvesting and using rainwater or graywater.

WATER Etc.

Customer Question

What can I do if I see graffiti on Tucson Water signs, meters, or facilities?

If you see tagging in action, please immediately call 911 and report it. If you see Tucson Water facilities that have already been tagged, contact us at (520) 791-4311 or tucsonaz.gov/water. See the Graffiti Buster insert in this month's mailing for 5 ways to report graffiti in the City of Tucson, plus info on reporting existing graffiti on utilities, on transit facilities and outside the City limits.



WATER MATTERS

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Is Tucson Water prepared for potential water shortages? Tucson Water Deputy Director Sandy Elder explains.

(See *Working with Water*, pg. 4 & 5)



tucsonaz.gov/water

CITY OF TUCSON ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

Recycle as You Garden

Warmer temperatures can mean more time outside to garden, plant, trim and care for landscaping. Consider recycling these items in your Blue Barrel:

- ⊕ **Plastic plant pots.** Just give them a quick rinse before recycling.
- ⊕ **Plastic containers for chemicals** that are used outside: plant food, pesticides, and herbicides. (If the containers aren't empty, you can recycle through the Household Hazardous Waste Program.)
- ⊕ Cracked or broken **plastic patio furniture.**



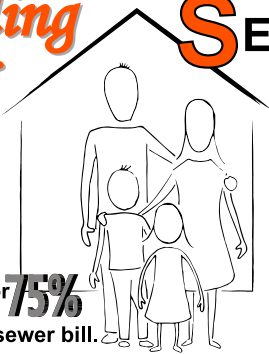
Plus, check out the 2015 Brush and Bulky info and schedule at tucsonaz.gov/es/brush-and-bulky. Note that B & B pick up may include tree trunks, brush, branches

and other green waste (up to 5' long and 24" in diameter) and cacti (up to 25 lbs. inside a container).

Items that always go in the trash include garden hoses, film plastic packaging, and any type of rocks, gravel, or pavers.

PIMA COUNTY WASTEWATER RECLAMATION

Depending on your income, you may be eligible for a reduction of 25%, 50% or 75% off your monthly sewer bill.



SEWER OUTREACH SUBSIDY PROGRAM

To be eligible you must meet the following:

- Be a residential sewer customer
- Have a water/sewer bill in your name
- Meet combined household income requirements based on Federal Poverty Guidelines

Call the **Pima County Community Action Agency** to schedule an eligibility appointment at **(520) 724-3794**



For additional information on the program, visit:

www.pima.gov/government/wastewaterreclamation

Your utilities services statement includes fees for your water, environmental services, and wastewater.

Environmental Services (ES) (520) 791-3171 or visit tucsonaz.gov/esd

Pima County Regional Wastewater Reclamation Department (PCRWRD) (520) 724-6500 or visit www.pima.gov/government/wastewaterreclamation

WORKING WITH WATER



Ask **Tucson Water Deputy Director Sandy Elder** about drought and his response is direct and specific: "Yes, there is a drought. Yes, we have regional cooperation. Yes, Tucson Water is prepared." Here he spends time with us to offer up some context about that answer:

How serious is the drought in the Southwest? "Most of Arizona is in a moderate drought. But many states that surround Arizona – California, Nevada, parts of Oregon, Oklahoma, Texas – are experiencing extreme and exceptional drought. Tucson is much better prepared for drought, while many of our neighbors are struggling now."

How does a regional drought potentially impact Tucson? "Most of Tucson's water comes from the Colorado River. Central Arizona Project (CAP) canals deliver Colorado River water to Tucson Water's Clearwater facilities. Future river flows are going to be decreased due to a decrease in precipitation. We're already seeing less water in Lake Powell and Lake Mead, the River's reservoirs."

5 Ways Tucson Water is Ready for Shortages

- 1** Planning for the future with state and federal governments, and regional water providers.
- 2** Offering conservation and efficiency programs that help to keep water demand low. Tucson water demand is now the same as in 1989 – with 200,000 more people living in Tucson.
- 3** Buying our full Colorado River water allocation but only using two-thirds of it. We're storing the remainder for future use during a shortage.
- 4** Reusing water and exploring new ways to recycle water. Did you know that Tucson Water was one of the first utilities in the nation to offer treated wastewater, reclaimed water, for irrigation?
- 5** Holding significant groundwater credits, thanks to good planning in the late '60s and early '70s when the City bought and retired farms for their water rights. That means we can pump and use groundwater as a bridge across extreme periods of drought.

"We've anticipated these drought conditions and decreased lake levels. In

2007, the seven states in the Colorado River basin – Arizona, Wyoming, Utah, New Mexico, Colorado, Nevada and California – cooperated to develop a shortage sharing agreement. Adopted by the Secretary of the Interior, the agreement defines shortage levels and how to manage river water during shortage. For example, municipal allocations of river water are protected as the highest priority water use."

What can customers do to help?

"Be water wise and aware of how you use water. Value water and its role in our community. I'm proud of Tucson and Tucson Water customers – we are known throughout the nation for how thoughtfully we conserve, plan, and use water."

CLICK

[tucsonaz.gov/
water](http://tucsonaz.gov/water)

WATCH


tucsonwater

CALL

English & Español:
(520) 791-4331

TDD

(520) 791-2639

SOCIAL





Water **Reliability**

EFFICIENCY HIGHLIGHTS

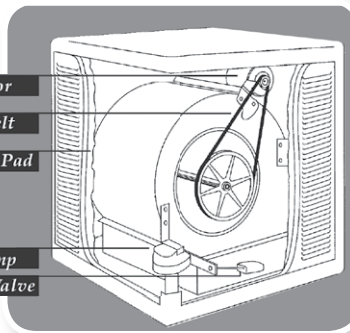


**What Tucson
Water is Doing**

Tucson Water staff conduct preventative maintenance to keep equipment in top working order.

**What You
Can Do**

Motor
Fanbelt
Cooler Pad
Pump
Float Valve

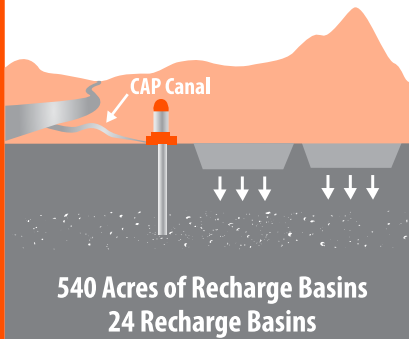


Maintain & service your cooler because it means using water more efficiently. Check working parts, install new cooler pads, inspect the float valve and water line, and ensure that the cooler tray isn't leaky.

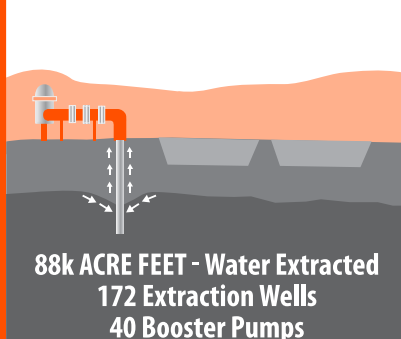
CLEARWATER FACILITIES

144,172 ACRE FEET delivered via CAP canal to 3 Clearwater sites

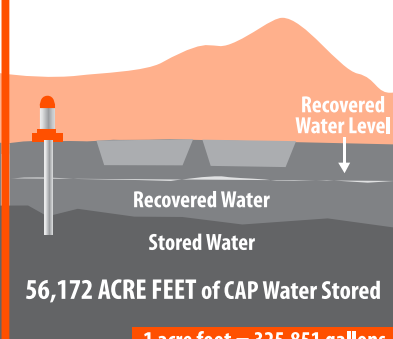
1 RECHARGE



2 RECOVER



3 STORE



1 acre foot = 325,851 gallons